

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specifications as follows. Typographical errors have only been fixed herein. No new matter has been added.

Please amend the paragraph on page 15, beginning on line 4, with the following replacement paragraph:

FIG. 2A and FIG. 2B. FIG. 2A shows nucleotide sequence of cDNA for mouse Osterix (SEQ ID NO: 1) and deduced amino acid sequence of mouse Osterix (SEQ ID NO: 1). This sequence begins in FIG. 2A-1 and continues into FIG. 2A-2. FIG. 2B shows comparison of the amino acid sequence in the zinc-finger domain (SEQ ID NO: 4) with sequences of related zinc-finger proteins. Amino acids in these related sequences that are different are indicated by black boxes. Cysteine and histidine residues of the zinc-finger motif are indicated by asterisks. Numbers to the right of the sequences indicate percent identity.

Please amend the paragraph on page 16, beginning on line 15, with the following replacement paragraph:

FIG. 7A, FIG. 7B, and FIG. 7C. Transcriptional activation studies. FIG. 7A. structures of Osterix cDNA and protein (SEQ ID NO:1). FIG. 7B. Osterix (SEQ ID NO:1) or subfragments of Osterix (SEQ ID NO:1) were fused inframe with the BAL4 DNA-binding domain. For example, pSGC22(27-428) includes nucleotides from between position 27 and position 428 of Osterix (SEQ ID NO: 1). The corresponding DNAs were placed under the control of the SV40 promoter/enhancer (pSG424) and transfected transiently into COS-7 cells together with a luciferease reporter plasmid containing five copies of the Gal4 binding site. FIG. 7C. expression of Gal4 fusion polypeptides in transfected cells. Asterisks show the Osterix fusion polypeptides.

Please amend the paragraph on page 16, beginning on line 23, with the following replacement paragraph:

FIG 8A and FIG 8B. Chromosomal localization of the mouse Osterix gene (SEQ ID NO:1) and mapping data for the Osterix gene (SEQ ID NO:1).

Please amend the paragraph on page 16, beginning on line 23, with the following replacement paragraph:

FIG. 10. Comparison of amino acid sequences of human Osterix and mouse Osterix (SEQ ID NO:2).

Please amend the paragraph on page 31, beginning on line 7, with the following replacement paragraph:

It will also be understood that this invention is not limited to the particular nucleic acid and amino acid sequences of ~~SEQ ID NOS:1 and 2~~ SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO: 2. Recombinant vectors and isolated DNA segments may therefore variously include the Osterix coding regions themselves, coding regions bearing selected alterations or modifications in the basic coding region, or they may encode larger polypeptides that nevertheless include Osterix coding regions or may encode biologically functional equivalent proteins or polypeptides that have variant amino acids sequences.

Please amend the table on pages 110 to 111, beginning on line 1, with the following replacement table:

TABLE 4

Spl:	5'-ATTCGATCGGGGCGGGGCGAGC-3'	17mer	<u>SEQ ID NO:24</u>
EKLFU:	5'-CGTAGAGCCACACCCTGAAGG-3'	21mer	<u>SEQ ID NO:25</u>
EKLFL:	5'-CCTTCAGGGTGTGGCTCTAGG-3'	21mer	<u>SEQ ID NO:26</u>
Colla1AU:	5'-TTGCGGGAGGGGGGGCGCGCTGGGTGGA-3'	28mer	<u>SEQ ID NO:27</u>
Colla1AL:	5'-TCCACCCAGCGCGCCCCCCTCCCGCAA-3'	28mer	<u>SEQ ID NO:28</u>
Colla1BU:	5'-CCTTCCTTTCCCTCCTCCCCCTCTTCG-3'	28mer	<u>SEQ ID NO:29</u>
Colla1BL:	5'-CGAAGAGGGGGGAGGAGGGAAGGAAGG-3'	28mer	<u>SEQ ID NO:30</u>
Col2a1U:	5'-GCTCGGGGGCGGGGTCTCAGGTTA-3'	24mer	<u>SEQ ID NO:31</u>
Col2a1L:	5'-TAACCTGAGACCCCGCCCCGAGC-3'	24mer	<u>SEQ ID NO:32</u>
MD25/27U:	5'-GGGCTCCGGGGGCGGGGTCTCAGGTTA-3'	27mer	<u>SEQ ID NO:33</u>
MD25/27L:	5'-TAACCTGAGACCCCGCCCCGAGCCC-3'	27mer	<u>SEQ ID NO:34</u>
MD25/27m1U:	5'-GGGCTCCGGGGGCGGGGTCTCATTTTA-3'	27mer	<u>SEQ ID NO:35</u>
MD25/27m1L:	5'-TAAAATGAGACCCCGCCCCGAGCCC-3'	27mer	<u>SEQ ID NO:36</u>

MD25/27m2U:	5'-GGGCTCCGGGGGCGTTGTCTCAGGTAA-3'	27mer	SEQ ID NO:37
MD25/27m2L:	5'-TAACCTGAGACAACGCCCCCGGAGCCC-3'	27mer	SEQ ID NO:38
MD25/27m3U:	5'-GGGCTCCGGCTTCGGGGTCTCAGGTTA-3'	27mer	SEQ ID NO:39
MD25/27m3L:	5'-TAACCTGAGACCCCGAACCCGGAGCCC-3'	27mer	SEQ ID NO:40
MD25/27m4U:	5'-GGGCTCATGGGGCGGGGTCTCAGGTTA-3'	27mer	SEQ ID NO:41
MD25/27m4L:	5'-TAACCTGAGACCCCGCCCCATGAGCCC-3'	27mer	SEQ ID NO:42
RD25/27U:	5'-AGGCTCCGGGGGCGGGGTCTCAGGTTA-3'	27mer	SEQ ID NO:43
MD25/27U:	5'-GGGCTCCGGGGGCGGGGTCTCAGGTAA-3'	27mer	SEQ ID NO:44
MD25/27m1U:	5'-GGGCTCCGGGGGCGGGGTCTCATTTTA-3'	27mer	SEQ ID NO:45
MD25/27m2U:	5'-GGGCTCCGGGGGCGTTGTCTCAGGTTA-3'	27mer	SEQ ID NO:46
MD25/27m3U:	5'-GGGCTCCGGGTTCGGGGTCTCAGGTTA-3'	27mer	SEQ ID NO:47
MD25/27m4U:	5'-GGGCTCATGGGGCGGGGTCTCAGGTTA-3'	27mer	SEQ ID NO:48
MD25/27U:	5'-GGGCTCCGGGGGCGGGGTCTCAGGTTA-3'	27mer	SEQ ID NO:49
MD25/27U:	5'-GGGCTCCGGGGGCGGGGTCTCAGGTTA-3'	27mer	SEQ ID NO:50